

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. **A system for emergency communication for high-risk residents comprising:**

5           **a base unit;**

**a plain old telephone service “POTS” telephone handset connected to said base unit;**

10           **a telephone keypad connected to said base unit;**

**telephone circuitry operable to establish two way telephone service over a twisted pair of POTS wiring;**

15           **telephone circuitry within said base unit operable to establish two way wireless telephone service; and**

**control electronics connected to said base unit for selectively switching between said POTS service and said wireless telephone service.**

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2. **A system for emergency communication for high-risk residents as defined in claim 1 and further comprising:**

25           **a speaker telephone connected to said base; and**

**circuitry within said control electronics to activate said speaker telephone system.**

5      **3. A system for emergency communication for high-risk residents as defined in claim 2 wherein:**

**said circuitry includes circuitry to activate said speaker telephone system by voice commands.**

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**4. A system for emergency communication for high-risk residents as defined in claim 1 and further comprising:**

15      **digital recording and voice recognition circuitry connected to said control electronics operable to activate said emergency communication system from a location remote from said base unit.**

**5. A system for emergency communication for high-risk residents as defined in claim 1 and further comprising:**

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**a distress button connected to said base unit and being operable to connect to an emergency service via a wireless telephone service upon depressing the distress button.**

**6. A system for emergency communication for high-risk residents as defined in claim 1 and further comprising:**

5           **a level sensor circuit connected to said base unit operable to detect a condition of the base unit being disposed in a non-horizontal condition ; and**

10           **circuitry operable to contact an emergency service in the event the base unit is in a non-horizontal condition.**

**7. A system for emergency communication for high-risk residents as defined in claim 1 and further comprising:**

15           **circuitry operable to detect a dead line condition of said handset; and**

**circuitry to initiate a telephone call to an emergency service to alert the service of the dead line condition.**

20           **8. A system for emergency communication for high-risk residents as defined in claim 7 and further comprising:**

**circuitry to wireless voice communication with a resident by an emergency service in the event an off-hood condition is detected.**

**9. A method for establishing emergency communication for high risk residents comprising the steps of:**

**providing a plain old telephone service("POTS") into a residence;**

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**providing a wireless telephone service into the residence associated with said POTS service; and**

**10 in the event of a dead line condition of said POTS service establishing a wireless telephone signal to an emergency service alerting the emergency service of the dead line condition of the POTS service.**

**15 10. A method for establishing emergency communication for high risk residents comprising the steps of:**

**providing a plain old telephone service("POTS") into a residence with a base unit;**

**20 providing a wireless telephone service into the residence associated with said POTS service and through said base unit;**

**detecting the level condition of said base unit; and**

**25 in the event that the base unit is determined to be not level contacting an**

**emergency service via said wireless telephone service.**

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